I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent by facsimile transmission in accordance with § 1.6(d) addressed to Art Unit 1652, Before Final Facsimile No. (703) 872-9306, the Commissioner for Patents. Washington, D.C. 20231 on the date shown below.

Date: March 12, 2003

PATENT Docket No. GC381-US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)
David A. Estell) Group Art Unit: 1652
Serial No.: 09/462,846) Examiner: David Steadman
Filed: January 13, 2000)
For: Bacillus subtilis with an Inactivated Cysteine Protease-1	i))

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED DECEMBER 19, 2002

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This communication is in response to the Office Action mailed December 19, 2002, in the above-identified patent application. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application in view of the following amendments and remarks. Instructions to amend the Specification, and replacement or added paragraphs in clean form pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121(b), and a clean version of the rewritten, added, and/or cancelled claims with instructions for entry pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121 (c)(1)(i) are included beginning on page 2 of this communication.

A marked-up version of the Specification's replacement paragraphs pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121(b), as well as rewritten, added, and/or cancelled claims pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121 (c)(1)(ii) is attached as Appendix I. A clean version of the entire set of pending claims pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121 (c)(3) as they would appear following entry of this amendment is attached as Appendix II. None of the amendments to the Claims